

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, having from the outset campaigned as an *Education Governor*, immediately upon her inauguration set about the task of translating her inspiring words into strong actions, and

WHEREAS, Governor Blanco has continually expressed in both word and deed her conviction that “education *is* economic development,” and “that education is the mortal enemy of poverty,” and

WHEREAS, Governor Blanco has faithfully supported the Board of Regents, Louisiana’s higher education system management boards and Louisiana’s colleges and universities in their efforts to improve public postsecondary education in Louisiana, and

WHEREAS, Governor Blanco in her 2007-08 Executive Budget, proposed the largest single year funding increase for higher education in a generation, and

WHEREAS, the Legislature has responded to the Governor’s leadership and has appropriated higher education investments sufficient to bring all of Louisiana’s public colleges and universities up to a funding level at least matching the average of their peer institutions across the South — a measure of financial support Louisiana’s colleges and universities have not seen for more than 25 years, and

WHEREAS, Governor Blanco’s education investments this year also include funds for the “Go Grant” program to help low and moderate income students afford college, to provide for faculty and staff pay raises, to address deferred maintenance for college buildings, and to eliminate the backlog of endowed professorships and chairs, as well as numerous other initiatives,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Regents and the entire Louisiana postsecondary education community hereby commend Governor Blanco for her extraordinary leadership, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents extends its sincere appreciation and commendation to Governor Blanco for her steadfast support of education at all levels, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents wishes Governor Blanco continued success for the remainder of her term and beyond.

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I, Pat A. Strong, Chair of the Board of Regents of Louisiana, hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution ordered by the said Board of Regents at a Board meeting, duly called and held on June 28, 2007, at which meeting more than a quorum was present and voted.

In witness thereof, I have signed my name and affixed the official seal of said Board of Regents at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

E. Joseph Savoie
Commissioner of Higher Education

Pat A. Strong, Chair
Louisiana Board of Regents